

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 CU-04 /132 W

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R 251103Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7453

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 16976

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: RVN-INDIA RELATIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 10014

1. IN CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 25 KY A(ASSISTANT TO FOREIGN MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS) TOLD US THAT A SEA TURN IN RVN-INDIA RELATIONS MAY BE TAKING PLACE. LAST JUNE PARANJPE, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF GOI MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, HAD PAID VISIT TO SOUTH VIETNAM IN COURSE OF FACT-FINDING MISSION TO INDOCHINA. PARANJPE WENT AWAY GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH WHAT HE SAW HERE AND APPARENTLY SO REPORTED TO NEW DELHI.

2. GVN CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW DELHI HAS RECENTLY NOTICED A FREINDLIER ATTITUDE. SENATOR THUAN, WHO RECENTLY VISITED INDIA AS AN INFORMAL GVN REPRESENTATIVE HAD ONE HOUR AND HALF WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SWARAN SINGH AND RECEIVED A SINCERELY WARM WELCOME FROM THE LARGE NUMBER OF INDIANS HE MET REFTEL. AT SAME TIME, ACCORDING TO KY, THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS THAT INDIAN RELATIONS WITH NORTH VIETNAM ARE SOMEWHAT SOURED. ALL THIS HAD LED FOREIGN MINISTRY TO HOPE THAT THE GOI'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GVN WAS CHANGING FOR THE BETTER.

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3. THESE HOPES RECEIVED A SETBACK WHEN WORD CAME THAT

PRIME MINISTER GHANDI HAD INVITED THE SO-CALLED PRG'S PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER TO A BANQUET DURING THE RECENT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. (AS KY SEES IT, PARANJPE IS STRONGLY FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE GVN, SWARAN SINGH IS TEMPTED BUT IS CAUTIOUS, WHILE MRS. GHANDI IS AFRAID TO TAKE THE STEP "FOR FEAR OF THE INDIAN LEFTISTS.") KY SAYS THAT THE GVN IS NOT DISCOURAGED AND IS PREPARED TO WAIT UNTIL THE MOMENT ARRIVES WHEN THE GOI WILL FEEL IT SAFE TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WITH SAIGON.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY NEW DELHI'S COMMENTS.
APPLING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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